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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Kazuhiro Kusuda et al.      Docket No.: 00-737  
Serial No.: 09/730,927      Examiner : A. Capron  
Filed : December 6, 2000      Art Unit : 3714  
For : GAMING MACHINE AND OPERATION METHOD THEREFOR

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks  
United States Patent & Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit the documents listed hereinbelow, which were cited in the corresponding Chinese application, copies enclosed.

- (1) Japanese Patent Application No. 10-179843, dated September 30, 1986, a copy of the cover page is enclosed along with an English translation of the application. This document discloses bingo game equipment characterized by providing the following. A sign selection means to choose a sign from at random and one after another among two or more signs defined beforehand in every direction, a display means to

display the matrix which consists of two or more masses, respectively, an effective field setting means to set up the part of all the fields in this matrix as an effective field at least, each mass in the aforementioned effective field, the account of before, with a sign setting means to set up, respectively any of two or more signs defined beforehand. A play value receptionist means to receive bet play value by the play person. An effective field expansion means to expand the effective field set up by the aforementioned effective field setting means according to the amount of the play value received by this play value receptionist means. A hit mass specification means to hit and to specify as a mass the mass to which the sign corresponding to the sign chosen by the aforementioned sign selection means is set. A judgement means to judge as which it is was specified by this hit mass specification means whether it hits and the mass is continuing in which direction of on the aforementioned matrix more than the predetermined individual, a dividend means to pay play value to the aforementioned play person when judged with the mass continuing in which direction of on the aforementioned

matrix more than the predetermined individual per  
above by this judgement means.

The undersigned submits the above-identified references for  
independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any  
admission that these references are or are not material to the  
present invention or that these references are or are not prior  
art with respect to the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

Kazuhiro Kusuda et al.

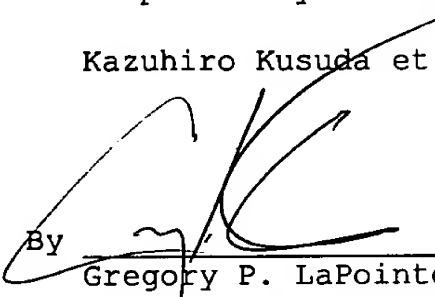
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Date: October 24, 2002